

The RAYMOND RECORDER HISTORY OF RAYMOND

By ELIZABETH KING

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My Week

by R. J. Deschamps

I went to a movie the other day to see "Captain From Castile", that's my second cinema in a year, got tired of them and didn't go.

I'm not going to tell you anything about the picture but there was an item in the screen news which interested me. It showed Lord Mountbatten leaving India. The crowd gave him a magnificent farewell. There must have been a thousand acres of people all yelling and waving. Yet this man was, to them, one of an alien race. The people of India wanted Britain to get out, yet they separated in friendship. This was the last official link between Britain and India. Certainly Lord Mountbatten performed magnificently in these last few months the necessary work of his great task. This was a triumph that no communist nation will ever approach. Britain helped to develop India until freedom and self-government was possible then left them to carry on—no quarrel—no war, best wishes, good bye.

An American family with two little girls, one six, the other nine moved into an apartment near us the other day. I asked the father

of the little family the first time I met him, how he liked the boundary line between Canada and the United States: "I have been in nearly every country of the world", he answered, "and there was less fuss crossing this boundary than I have ever seen before in all my life." While he was still staying at the hotel a man in conversation with the little girls asked them how they liked Canada. They said, "We'll see when we get there". "Well", he said, "you are in Canada now". "No", said one little girl, "these people are just like Americans." Such is life. It would indeed be hard to distinguish an American from a Canadian by features alone, you might guess from his accent—even that would be difficult.

Some time ago I sent out a story asking which of all the years from 1908 to 1947 inclusive had been the most prosperous. I followed this by pointing out that so far as the records were concerned the standard of living was higher in 1947 than in any other year. Now I have a letter from Mrs. Katherine A. Marston, the editor and proprietor of that bright paper the Elora Express.

Here's what she says:

"I would take 1935, thank you, with four babies, no bathroom, and a farm to bring back to life, but with the hope of orderly progress (continued on back page)

ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST PRIMARY

As the pages of 1902 history are turned one pauses in amazement and interest at the rapid progression of the little town of Raymond since that memorable day in August, 1901 when a buffalo herd was placed in the centre of a hub and a small group of pioneers gathered around and sang songs of Zion and listened to the dedication prayer by Charles O. Card of the Alberta Stake. That was the beginning—the starting point.

At the close of 1902 it is interesting to note the rapid flow of immigrants from Utah Idaho and Arizona. During the month of March alone many caravans entered Raymond. At one single time about the middle of March over sixty people wended their way into Raymond in covered wagons.

Most of those immigrants were young married people with families. The Mormon pioneers have always sensed keenly the need for schools and churches. There was a large number of young people and children they had to be taken care of.

Bishop J. W. Knight was alert to the needs of the youth. The organizations of the M.I.A. and the Sunday School had been effected and now there was need of an organization of the Primary. Consequently on the 23rd of March 1902, Sister Emily Biglow (Grandmother of Della Woolf of Raymond), of the Alberta Stake Primary came to Raymond to organize the Primary organization and on April 13, 1902 the officers of this first organization were set apart. The meeting continued as follows:

"John W. Taylor and Jesse Knight visited the Sunday School. Brother Taylor encouraged everyone to read good books and retain and use what was gleaned from them. He also encouraged the congregation to have faith and not get discouraged in this new community. Jesse Knight hoped the spirit of faultfinding would not come into our midst as that kind of spirit was not from the Lord but from the evil one. He hoped the Lord would bless the people in this land. People were encouraged not to harm swallows as they ate millions of mosquitoes.

Again we read from an old record. The first Primary was held April 18th, 1902. No classwork was conducted at that first meeting. The opening song was "Merry, merry children sweetly sing". The closing song was "Did you think to pray." Susie Rose was the president and talked to the children after which some of the children sang songs and others recited. There were 53 present that first meeting including officers and teachers. Primary was held every 3 weeks at that time. The officers were: Susie Wood Rose, President; Clara Stevens 1st counselor; Susie Fraser 2nd counselor; Ora S. Rose Sec.; The first teachers were Annie Cooper, Rose Stewart and Ida Young.

Many of these primary children now grown to manhood and womanhood are still with us and have families of their own. In one or two cases they are grandparents.

Continuing to dip into old records we read: April 27, 1902—Ephraim B. Hicks was released as president of the M.I.A. on account of his many duties as counselor to Bishop Knight. Francis Kirkham was sustained president with George H. Budd first and J. H. McKnight 2nd counselors and Robert Ashby Secretary. May 4th, Frank Rose was released as organist of the Sunday School and Christian Tollestrup sustained. RAYMOND CHURCH DEDICATED MAY 25, 1902. The Raymond church was dedicated May 25th, 1902. The dedicatory pray-



er was offered by Orson A. Woolley. The choir sang "This House We Dedicate To Thee".

JUNE 15th, Hyrum Knight and Ernest Stark were thanked for presenting the ward with a new pulpit for the new church.

JULY 7th, The first General Priesthood was held. August 3rd, Amy L. Allen and Zina Y. Card of the Alberta Stake were the speakers.

Aug. 10, C. F. Tollestrup and wife were received as members of the ward. Apostle John W. Taylor and Jesse Knight were the speakers.

Jesse Knight said the Sugar Factory would be built and with the help of the Lord would be successful. Aug. 24th—Bishop Knight called upon the brethren to build a granary for the Relief Society.

Special Meeting, Sept. 3rd, 1902

A special meeting was held in the Raymond Ward meeting house Sept. 3rd, 1902. The occasion was a visit from Joseph F. Smith, President of the L.D.S. church. With him from Salt Lake was his first counselor Anthony L. Lund. Also present at this meeting were Apostle John W. Taylor, President Card and Woolley of the Alberta Stake and some of the prominent sisters from Salt Lake City. Bishop J. W. Knight presided. Singing: "Come, Come Ye Saints". Prayer was offered by Elder Wm. Wood. President Lund was introduced as the first speaker and said in part: "I know of no place in Zion which has manifested such rapid growth and has accomplished so much in the same length of time. It is human nature to expect rather than to appreciate blessing (etc.)."

Mrs. McDuffee sang a solo, accompanied by Mrs. Moore. Zina Y. Card was the next speaker. Other speakers were Sr. Smith, wife of President Smith and President Smith. He marvelled at the progress made here in so short a time. He considered our opportunities most favorable for a glorious future. "My greatest fear is that through prosperity some may be led to forget the giver of all good." He felt to congratulate us upon our happy location. "We have greater opportunities than have ever been enjoyed by our people."

Our history in Canada was recounted. He hoped our virtues would gain favor with the powers that be. Zion grows from the base of the mountains to the Gulf. He advised the people to lay out their streets and side walks and commence ornamenting them that our better nature can be educated. "We should build good homes and make our wives and children happy. The mothers who bear our children are worthy of our highest love and admiration." President Card then effected some organizations. The following were sustained: As officers of the Eastern Circuit Zebulon Jacobs, Instructor or in religion classes with Franklin P. Fisher 1st and Arthur Dahl 2nd assistants.

Sister Mary Head as President of the Primary; Francis W. Kirkham, president of Y.M.M.I.A.; Arthur Eugene Fawns 1st and John Powelson Sec. Apostle Taylor followed and told how the people had answered the calls made of them. He also explained the liberality of the Canadian Government. Choir under George E. Court sang "Praise to the Man". Closing prayer by L. H. Baker.

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Following is a copy of the minutes of the scarcely ten months old Sunday School which had grown from a total attendance of 43 to a total of 188.

Raymond Ward S.S. held Sept. 14. Commenced at 10 o'clock Supt. L. H. Holbrook presiding. Roll call showed 17 officers and teachers present. 3 late and 2 excused. Opening hymn "Did You Think To Pray". Prayer was offered by M. T. Owen. Singing "Catch the Sunshine". Minutes read and accepted. Silent drill was held. Sacrament administered by Elders George Fairbanks and Loxton. Bro. and Sister R. E. Allen from Provo spoke to the school. Bishop Knight spoke to the school, said all the officers would be released at this time except the teachers. They received a vote of thanks for their work. Brother Holbrook said a few words about his new position as Supt. of the Eastern Circuit, said there was no better class of teachers in the Stake than in Raymond.

Louis D. King was chosen and voted in as Supt. of the Raymond Ward Sunday School with Wm. Cooper and Joseph McKnight as counselors. Sister Alice Bevan as Secretary and Lizzie Munns as Treasurer. Supt. King spoke to the school.

The same day Sept. 14, David A. W'cox was sustained president of Y.M.M.I.A. with George H. Budd and Andrew Walton counselors.

Oct. 5—President Theodore Brandley of the Alberta Stake visited Raymond to reorganize the Relief Society. Sister Lorana Rodeback was sustained president with Emma J. Bevan and Mary Anderson as counselors. Christian Tollestrup was sustained organist with Mable Powelson as assistant in the ward. Sister Russell of Stirling as president of the Relief Society of the eastern circuit. A PROPHETIC UTTERANCE

Oct. 26, Jesse Knight was the speaker and among other things made this statement: "I can prophesy here today by the spirit of God, that if the people will keep the commandments of God there will never be a saloon in Raymond."

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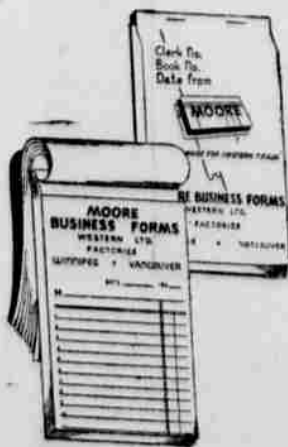
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